AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1-3 (Canceled).
- 4. (Currently Amended): A reception data synchronizing apparatus for a synchronization to be obtained between reception data having a plurality of synchronism patterns and expectation data as an expected value of the reception data, comprising:
- a phase difference recording means for recording a time difference between a second synchronism pattern detecting timing at which a second of the plurality of the synchronism patterns is detected in the reception data and a first synchronism pattern detecting timing, as an initial one at which a first of the plurality of the synchronism patterns is initially detected in the reception data;
 - a timing generating means for generating a timing for decision; and
- a collation and synchronism decision means for collating the reception data with the expectation data to decide whether or not the reception data is consistent in phase with the expectation data according to the timing for decision,

wherein the timing for decision is the first synchronism pattern detecting timing before the collation and synchronism decision means collates the reception data with the expectation data,

and wherein the timing for decision is a timing obtained by shifting the first synchronism pattern detecting timing by the time difference recorded in the phase difference recording means, when the collation and synchronism decision means gives a decision for inconsistency in palse phase.

- 5. (Currently Amended): A reception data synchronizing apparatus for a synchronization to be obtained between reception data having a plurality of synchronism patterns and expectation data as an expected value of the reception data, comprising:
- a phase difference recording means for recording a time difference between a current synchronism pattern detecting timing at which a second of the plurality of the synchronism patterns is detected in the reception data and a previous synchronism pattern detecting timing, as a previous one at which a first of the plurality of the synchronism patterns is detected in a previous time in the reception data;
- a collation and synchronism decision means for collating the reception data with reference-the expectation data to decide whether or not the reception data is consistent in phase with the expectation data according to the previous synchronism pattern detecting timing; and
- a timing generating means operative, when the collation and synchronism decision means gives a decision for inconsistency in phase, for shifting the previous synchronism pattern detecting timing by the time difference recorded in the phase difference recording means.

6-8 (Canceled).

- 9. (Currently Amended): A reception data synchronizing method for a synchronization to be obtained between reception data having a plurality of synchronism patterns and expectation data as an expected value of the reception data, comprising:
- a phase difference recording step for recording a time difference between a second synchronism pattern detecting timing at which a second of the plurality of the synchronism patterns is detected in the reception data and a first synchronism pattern detecting timing, as an initial one at which a first of the plurality of the synchronism patterns is initially detected in the reception data;
 - a timing generating step for generating a timing for decision; and
- a collation and synchronism decision step for collating the reception data with the expectation data to decide whether or not the reception data is consistent in phase with the the expectation data according to the timing for decision,

wherein the timing for decision is the first synchronism pattern detecting timing before

the collation and synchronism decision step collates the reception data with the expectation data-

and wherein the timing-for-decision is the first synchronism-pattern detecting timing before the collation and synchronism-decision-step-collates—the reception-data with the expectation data;

and wherein the timing for decision is a timing obtained by shifting the first synchronism pattern detecting timing by the time difference recorded in the phase difference recording step, when the collation and synchronism decision step gives a decision for inconsistency in phase.

- 10. (Currently Amended): A reception data synchronizing method for a synchronization to be obtained between reception data having a plurality of synchronism patterns and expectation data as an expected value of the reception data, comprising:
- a phase difference recording step for recording a time difference between a current synchronism pattern detecting timing at which a second of the plurality of the synchronism patterns is detected in the reception data and a previous synchronism pattern detecting timing, as a previous one at which a first of the plurality of the synchronism patterns is detected in a previous time in the reception data;
- a collation and synchronism decision step for collating the reception data with the expectation data to decide whether or not the reception data is consistent in phase with the expectation data according to the previous synchronism pattern detecting timing; and
- a timing generating step operative, when the collation and synchronism decision step gives a decision for inconsistency in phase, for shifting the previous synchronism pattern detecting timing by the time difference recorded in the phase difference recording step.

11-13 (Canceled).

14. (Currently Amended): A computer-readable medium embodying a computer program of instructions for execution executable by the a computer to perform a reception data synchronizing method for a synchronization to be obtained between reception data having a

plurality of synchronism patterns and expectation data as an expected value of the reception data, comprising:

a phase difference recording step for recording a time difference between a second synchronism pattern detecting timing at which a second of the plurality of the synchronism patterns is detected in the reception data and a first synchronism pattern detecting timing, as an initial one at which a first of the plurality of the synchronism patterns is initially detected in the reception data;

a timing generating step for generating a timing for decision; and

a collation and synchronism decision step for collating the reception data with the expectation data to decide whether or not the reception data is consistent in phase with the expectation data according to the timing for decision,

wherein the timing for decision is the first synchronism pattern detecting timing before the collation and synchronism decision step collates the reception data with the expectation data,

and wherein the timing for decision is a timing obtained by shifting the first synchronism pattern detecting timing by the time difference recorded in the phase difference recording step, when the collation and synchronism decision step give a decision for inconsistency in phase.

- 15. (Currently Amended): A computer-readable medium embodying a computer program of instructions for execution executable by the a computer to perform a reception data synchronizing method for a synchronization to be obtained between reception data having a plurality of synchronism patterns and expectation data as an expected value of the reception data, comprising:
- a phase difference recording step for recording a time difference between a current synchronism pattern detecting timing at which a second of the plurality of the synchronism patterns is detected in the reception data and a previous synchronism pattern detecting timing, as a previous one at which a first of the plurality of the synchronism patterns is detected in a previous time in the reception data;

a collation and synchronism decision step for collating the reception data with the expectation data to decide whether or not the reception data is consistent in phase with the expectation data according to the previous synchronism pattern detecting timing; and

a timing generating step operative, when the collation and synchronism decision step gives a decision for inconsistency in phase, for shifting the previous synchronism pattern detecting timing by the time difference recorded in the phase difference recording step.

16-18 (Canceled).

- 19. (Currently Amended): A reception data synchronizing apparatus for a synchronization to be obtained between reception data having a plurality of synchronism patterns and expectation data as an expected value of the reception data, comprising:
- a phase difference recording device that records a time difference between a second synchronism pattern detecting timing at which a second of the plurality of the synchronism patterns is detected in the reception data and a first synchronism pattern detecting timing, as an initial one at which a first of the plurality of the synchronism patterns is initially detected in the reception data;
 - a timing generating device for generating a timing for decision; and
- a collation and synchronism decision device that collates the reception data with the expectation data to decide whether or not the reception data is consistent in phase with the expectation data according to the timing for decision,

wherein the timing for decision is the first synchronism pattern detecting timing before the collation and synchronism decision device collates the reception data with the expectation data,

and wherein the timing for decision is a timing obtained by shifting the first synchronism pattern detecting timing by the time difference recorded in the phase difference recording device, when the collation and synchronism decision device gives a decision for inconsistency in phase.

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20. (Currently Amended): A reception data synchronizing apparatus for a synchronization to be obtained between reception data having a plurality of synchronism patterns and expectation data as an expected value of the reception data, comprising:

a phase difference recording device that records a time difference between a current synchronism pattern detecting timing at which a second of the plurality of the synchronism patterns is detected in the reception data and a previous synchronism pattern detecting timing, as a previous one at which a first of the plurality of the synchronism patterns is detected in a previous time in the reception data;

a collation and synchronism decision device for collating the reception data with the expectation data to decide whether or not the reception data is consistent in phase with the expectation data according to the previous synchronism pattern detecting timing; and

a timing generating device operative, when the collation and synchronism decision device gives a decision for inconsistency in phase, for shifting the previous synchronism pattern detecting timing by the time difference recorded in the phase difference recording device.